

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2243
ANSWERED ON 20/03/2025

NUCLEAR ENERGY MISSION

2243. SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the aims and objectives of Nuclear Energy Mission announced in the budget;
- (b) the details of allocation made for this mission and whether the allocation also includes giving support to develop Small Modular Reactors (SMRs);
- (c) whether private sector participation is sought to develop SMRs, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether there is any need to amend Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act and, if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by Government?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a)&(b) The nuclear energy mission announced in the budget-2025 envisages deployment of 100 GWe of nuclear energy by 2047, which is essential for NetZero by 2070. The mission aims to provide reliable energy alternative to fossil fuel energy sources with an objective to replace retiring thermal power plants, set up captive plants for energy intensive industry & providing energy for remote as well as off-grid location with objective to decarbonise the energy sector.

DAE is designing and developing SMRs mentioned below:

1. Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR)-200 MWe,
2. Small Modular Reactor (SMR) -55 Mwe, and
3. Gas-cooled high-temperature reactor meant for hydrogen production.

Fund of INR 20,000 Crore allocated in the budget-2025 for deployment of five SMRs by 2033. Fund is also allocated for supporting to development of Small Modular Reactors mentioned above.

- (c) In Financial Year 2024-25, as part of Budget Announcement, policy directive has been set to partner with the private sector for setting up Bharat Small Reactor (BSR), and in pursuance of the same, NPCIL has floated Request-for-Proposal to private industries to finance and build small-sized 220 MW-PHWR based NPPs as captive plants for electricity production.

- (d) A Task Force has been constituted in Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) to look into the amendments required in the Atomic Energy Act. This Task Force has members from DAE, AERB, NPCIL, NITI Aayog, MoLJ and MEA. The Task Force is looking into various aspects like build, own, operation of NPPs by Private Sector, nuclear safety, security, safeguards, fuel procurement/ fabrication, waste, management, spent fuel reprocessing, etc. In addition, a separate Task Force is also looking into Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLND Act) to address the concerns raised by private suppliers.

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